

## ESF #3 - PUBLIC WORKS

## Participating Department/Agencies:

Nebraska Department of Administrative Services  
State Building Division  
Nebraska Department of Aeronautics  
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality  
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission  
Nebraska Health and Human Services  
Department of Regulation and Licensure  
Nebraska Military Department  
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources  
Nebraska Department of Roads  
Nebraska State Patrol  
University of Nebraska System

I. PURPOSE

- A. To coordinate public works and engineering resources in support of the needs of local governments, voluntary organizations and other emergency groups as they perform their emergency response missions before, during and immediately following a Governor's emergency proclamation
- B. To manage public works and engineering resources which includes:
  - 1. Performing necessary actions to assist with technical advice and evaluations, engineering services, construction management and inspection, emergency contracting and emergency repair of wastewater and solid waste facilities;
  - 2. Processing all public works and engineering assistance requests from local emergency operations centers (EOCs) and state ESF requests received through the SEOC.
  - 3. Coordinating emergency clearance of debris for damage assessment and passage of emergency personnel and supplies for health and safety purposes during the immediate response phase;
  - 4. Clearing and/or repairing damaged emergency access routes necessary for the transportation of rescue personnel and supplies. These routes include streets, roads, bridges, waterways and airfields;
  - 5. Restoration of critical public services and facilities including the supply of adequate amounts of potable water, temporary restoration of water supply systems and the provision of water for fire fighting;
  - 6. Demolition or stabilization of damaged state or federal structures and facilities designated by state or local government as immediate hazards to

public health and safety, or as necessary to facilitate the accomplishment of life saving operations;

7. Performing necessary actions to assist the local jurisdictions with damage assessment and recovery operations.

## II. SITUATION

### A. Disaster Condition

A major or catastrophic disaster will cause unprecedented property damage. Structures, homes, public buildings, bridges and other facilities may be destroyed or damaged and must be reinforced, demolished or isolated to ensure safety. Streets, highways and other forms of transportation will be damaged and may be partially or fully inoperable.

### B. Assumptions

1. In the event of a disaster, many local and state response personnel will be unable to perform their prescribed emergency duties. Equipment in the immediate disaster area may be damaged or inaccessible. Resources will be limited in the immediate disaster area. State agencies will have to deploy resources from outside the affected area to ensure a timely, efficient and effective response. Disaster assistance must begin immediately.
2. Local governments in the immediate disaster area will need assistance in clearing debris, performing damage assessments, structural evaluations, emergency repairs to public facilities and in meeting basic human health needs.
3. Ground, air, and rail routes must be provided to allow access to disaster areas. Emergency road and airstrip debris clearance and repairs will have top priority to support immediate lifesaving emergency response activities.
4. Rapid damage assessment of the disaster area will be necessary to develop an accurate Incident Action Plan.
5. Emergency environmental waivers and legal clearances may be needed for debris disposal.
6. Legal requirements that delay the securing of contractors or purchasing of materials may be waived.
7. Large numbers of skilled personnel, engineers, construction workers, equipment operators, etc., construction equipment and materials will be needed from outside the disaster area.

8. Support services for all personnel and equipment will have to be provided from outside the disaster area.

### III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. During an incident, participating ESF#3 agencies/departments are organized and will function in accordance with the NIMS protocols.
- B. Before, during, and immediately following a Governor's emergency proclamation ESF #3 will respond to requests for local public works and engineering assistance. It is anticipated that after life-saving efforts are completed, the majority of the requests for public works and engineering resources will be initiated by other ESFs to assist in providing aid to those in need.
- C. In support of ESF #3, the Nebraska Department of Roads will provide a representative to serve as the NEMA designated ESF Coordinator (ESFC) for ESF #3. In the event of a potential or real disaster event, the ESFC will be notified by the SEOC. Upon SEOC request, the ESFC will be available to respond to public works and engineering-related requests submitted through the NEMA. When activation of the SEOC is implemented, and the NEMA requests, the ESFC will activate ESF #3, identify which participating departments/agencies are needed, and take steps to insure that the departments/agencies are activated or on alert as appropriate.
- D. ESF #3 will:
  1. Verify state inventories of available equipment, personnel and materials resources;
  2. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel and ensure that they are ready for immediate response;
  3. Coordinate with participating departments/agencies to prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response;
  4. Pre-position resources when it becomes apparent that state engineering and public works resources will be required;
  5. Coordinate the movement of any engineering and public works resource that may be needed in the response or recovery, from the potential disaster area to the nearest staging area or camp;
  6. Commit available equipment when evacuation or re-entry of a designated area is authorized and local resources are not sufficient;
  7. Coordinate with participating departments/agencies to identify available resources. Personnel and equipment will be available based upon

established priorities. Plans for mobilization will be defined in the Incident Action Plan;

8. Establish priorities for roadway corridors and airstrips that will have priority in regard to debris removal and repair to allow access into damaged areas;
9. Provide personnel for damage assessment to public infrastructure;
10. Continually reassess priorities to address the most critical engineering and public works needs;
11. Track all public works support resources that are committed to specific missions;
12. Re-deploy and re-stage resources as appropriate.

#### IV. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

ESF #3 will utilize personnel and resources from participating departments/agencies to respond to mission assignments related to emergencies/disasters. Additional resources available at other ESFs may be coordinated and mobilized to support ESF #3 missions. When requests exceed the state's capability to respond, additional resources (i.e., federal resources, contractual agreements, and mutual aid agreements) will be mobilized. All personnel and resources mobilized by ESF #3 will remain under the direction and control of the ESFC #3, unless otherwise designated.